

**THE BRAIN AND HUMAN BEHAVIOR**—Proceedings of the Association for Research in Nervous and Mental Disease—December 7 and 8, 1956, New York, N. Y., Volume XXXVI—Harry C. Solomon, M.D., Stanley Cobb, M.D., Wilder Penfield, M.D., editors. Williams & Wilkins Company, Mount Royal and Guilford Avenues, Baltimore 2, Md. 564 pages, with 200 illustrations and 53 tables, \$15.00.

The subject for the 1956 meeting of the Association for Research in Nervous and Mental Disease was well chosen for the time, when accelerated progress in knowledge of human behavior based on advances in knowledge of neurophysiology and the study of a variety of new drugs influencing human complex mental processes required some sort of critical review. All of the material in this volume may be found in the scientific literature; however, if only to gather it together under one cover a real service has been performed. This is the least of the book's value, though; much the greatest contribution is the free discussion at the end of each presentation by individuals familiar with the field. Thus a good appreciation may be gained of the opinions of a number of workers, rather than just that of the essayist. The individual presentations vary greatly in their complexity; some are readily understood by the average physician, while others may be obscure even to the specialist. In general, where definite knowledge is available the subject matter is more readily assimilable than where there is still some groping in the dark, and unfortunately the latter situation prevails in many parts of the field of human behavior. It may be said, however, that there is little either known or conjectured about the brain and human behavior that cannot be found in this book.

HENRY NEWMAN, M.D.

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**A DOCTOR'S MARITAL GUIDE FOR PATIENTS**—Bernard R. Greenblat, B.S., M.D., Associate Attending Physician, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Kings County Hospital, Brooklyn; Clinical Instructor, University of the State of New York, School of Medicine, Brooklyn. The Budlong Press, 5428 N. Virginia Avenue, Chicago 25. 88 pages, patient price, \$1.50. (Also available in a Catholic Edition, 88 pages, patient price, \$1.50.)

This book is planned as an aid to the physician in advising young people how valuable to health a sound sexual relation can be. The basic idea is that normal men and women would get along better if they knew the facts of sexual life.

Written in semi-technical language, it contains a good deal of useful information on the physical and psychological aspects of sex and conception. It accentuates the normal qualities of and in sexual relations, distinguishes between fact and fiction, both physical and psychological. Physicians may recommend it to their patients as a sound factual working guide.

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**ADVANCES IN INTERNAL MEDICINE**—Volume IX—1958—Editors: William Dock, M.D., State University of New York College of Medicine at New York City; and I. Snapper, M.D., Beth-El Hospital, Brooklyn; The Year Book Publishers, Inc., 200 East Illinois St., Chicago 11, Illinois, 1958. 311 pages, \$8.50.

The latest of this well known series includes the following sections: (1) The Metabolism of Vitamin B<sub>12</sub> in Pernicious and Other Megaloblastic Anemias; (2) Corticosteroids and Infections; (3) Primary and Secondary Hyperparathyroidism; (4) Hereditary Defects in Clotting Mechanisms; (5) Etiology and Pathogenesis of Glomerulonephritis; (6) Pathophysiology of Carcinoid Tumors; (7) Some Aspects of Disordered Renal Tubular Function. The thoroughness with which each of the subjects, although limited in number, is handled is one of the features which makes this review volume one of the best.

**BACTERIAL AND MYCOTIC INFECTIONS OF MAN**—Edited by Rene J. Dubos, Ph.D., The Rockefeller Institute. Third Edition. J. B. Lippincott Company, East Washington Square, Philadelphia 5, Pa., 1958. 820 pages, with 116 illustrations, \$8.50.

The new (third) edition of this well known book preserves much the same format as the previous ones. However, as Dr. Dubos tells in the preface, "the text has been almost completely rewritten." This is certainly true and the type size has been reduced so that the new edition contains about 100 pages less than the previous. The chapters on general matters and the principles of infection are especially well done and bring out up-to-date ideas. The chapters on special bacteria are comprehensive, authoritative and documented with elaborate bibliographies.

The one comment of this reviewer who is a clinician is the brevity of the clinical discussions. Lobar pneumonia, for example, is dealt with in a small paragraph, and in plague one searches in vain for a systematic discussion of the disease although the bacteriology and immunology are thoroughly treated. Nonetheless we believe the book to be a "must" for the thoughtful physician as well as for the bacteriologist.

ARTHUR L. BLOOMFIELD, M.D.

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**TEXTBOOK OF PSYCHOLOGY**—Donald Olding Hebb, Professor and Chairman, Department of Psychology, McGill University. W. B. Saunders Company, Philadelphia, 1958. 276 pages, 78 figures, \$4.50.

This is not by any means the orthodox textbook of psychology, as indeed Professor Hebb is not the orthodox psychologist. Although the doctrines of the behavioristic school are largely followed, this is not exclusively the case. Wherever possible behavior is tied in with known facts of function and structure of the nervous system, and the neurologist finds this elementary text most interesting and useful. The book can be recommended to the physician who would like to have an understanding of the complex functioning of the nervous system as related to normal human behavior based on current concepts of neuroanatomy and neurophysiology. The newer drugs influencing mental behavior also receive full consideration.

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**ETIOLOGY AND TREATMENT OF LEUKEMIA**—Proceedings of the First Louisiana Cancer Conference—Walter J. Burdette, Ph.D., M.D., F.A.C.S., Professor and Head of the Department of Surgery and Director of the Laboratory of Clinical Biology, University of Utah College of Medicine; Surgeon-in-Chief, Salt Lake County Hospital; Chief Surgical Consultant, Veterans Administration Hospitals; Salt Lake City, Utah. C. V. Mosby Company, St. Louis, Mo., 1958. 167 pages, \$4.00.

The book covers the etiology and treatment of leukemia in a conservative and logical manner. The part dealing with viruses and other leukomogenic agents is very interesting and in particular affords a good opportunity of obtaining a bird's eye view of viruses as causative agents in leukemia. Little that is new in the field is mentioned but most of the known facts are brought together in a clear and succinct way. The informal discussion by various members of the panel contains some worth while information and makes this formal presentation more helpful.

Treatment is discussed under various aspects and the different therapeutic agents are conservatively presented. There is nothing in this section with which one interested in hematology would not be familiar but those less familiar with the subject will find this a good and convenient source for information.